

Plant breeders who are trying to produce larger and finer fruited varieties of blackberries and raspberries can not fail to be interested in the strains of the Hawaiian species of *Rubus* (*R. macraei*, Nos. 53480 to 53482, 53625, 53759, 53760, and 53847). The problem will be to find a suitable moist, cool, but not too cold, climate in which to grow both these Hawaiian and Mr. Popenoe's Ecuadorian species of *Rubus*.

The brilliant-berried *Vaccinium meyenianum* (No. 53488), from the volcano of Kilauea, and the showy white-flowered *Fagraea auriculata* (No. 53483), as well as the forest tree *Sterculia macrophylla* (No. 53484), which Mr. Rock introduced, will, it is hoped, find places in this country.

An unusual number of valuable species has been presented to the department by foreign institutions and by interested foreign amateurs, to whose generosity we have always been indebted in the past.

The Hon. Vicary Gibbs, of Herts, England, has sent us 21 varieties of the beautiful aster (*Aster novi-belgii*, Nos. 53009 to 53029), some of which are sure to beautify the dooryards of this country.

Victor O. Fletcher, of Hobart, Tasmania, has sent four new grasses (Nos. 53115 to 53118) that are proving valuable for forage on the dry hills of Tasmania, where the rainfall totals only 14 inches annually.

Sir David Prain, director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, has favored us with 19 new or rare species of *Rubus* (Nos. 52939 to 52951 and Nos. 53535 to 53540) and a very unusual collection of *Berberis*, *Lonicera*, *Clematis*, *Rosa*, *Viburnum*, and *Cotoneaster* (Nos. 53627 to 53752).

Consul Cavin, of Tananarive, Madagascar, presents a remarkable collection of the coffee species now recognized by botanists as distinct (Nos. 53454 to 53462).

Consul Goding, of Guayaquil, sends in a salmon-pink shaddock, or grapefruit (No. 53611).

Through the kindness of Messrs. Kenoyer and Dudgeon, of Ewing Christian College at Allahabad, India, we have come into possession of a remarkable collection of Indian tree and shrub seeds (Nos. 53563 to 53590). This includes *Bauhinia vahlii* (No. 53567), which they say is put to more uses than almost any other forest plant except the bamboo. It is a gigantic climber with white flowers turning to cream color and large flat leaves which are sewed together to make plates, cups, and even rough tablecloths, umbrellas, cloaks, and rain capes. It has grown well in southern Florida in Charles T. Simpson's hammock. The collection also contains *Boswellia serrata* (No. 53569), the source of Indian olibanum, used as an ingredient in incense; *Diospyros tupru* (Nos. 53572 and 53573), a tropical persimmon tree as yet not cultivated in India; nine flowering trees of promise for Florida (Nos. 53574 to 53582); two stately trees (*Sterculia urens*, No. 53588, and *Terminalia tomentosa*, No. 53589) suitable for street use; a variety of purple-stemmed wheat from the Ganges Valley (No. 53590); and a species of jujube (*Ziziphus xylopyrus*, No. 53593), the charred fruits of which make a black dye for leather.